Of Course It's the War That Has Caused the Scarcity and Enables the Ambitious Lad to Choose His Own Job Nowadays

TOTHING in all industrial and commercial history quite compares with the changed status

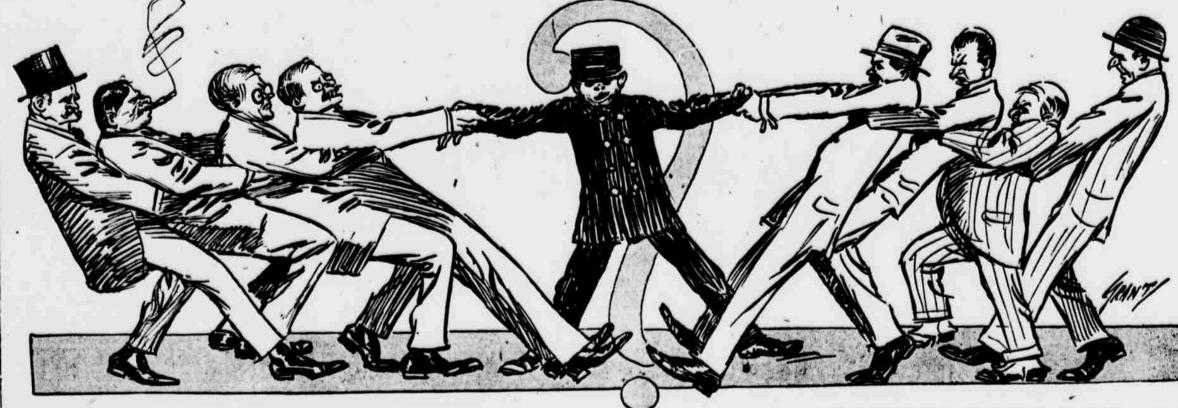
Once a necessary nulsance, the but of humor, bedeviled, berated and ill paid, he is to-day a prize to be fought ner by rival employers, a person of consequence to be wheedled, cajoled and tempted with bribes, a social probiem and a spoiled darling.

It may be added that well he knows

Careless business firms that used to let the office boy go when he asked for more money or got too deeply interested in the movie show on the block or "sassed" the boss; firms that parted with him serene in the confidence that there were always plenty more just as good, or as bad, woke up with a joit this fall. There aren't any boys to be

Look over the columns of want ad vertisements and note the appeals for boys office boys, apprentices, helpers funtor clerks, messengers, Sometimes they run as high as twelve columns of

Anuary. It grew worse slowly, even ging for boys, and if we are able to in summer. When school opened it find three or four boys a day for these



"No, that's merely because you're quite so good, be compelled to put the

ecame acute. 150 Johs we are doing very well, we The answer is the same as that to all think. the other riddles such as. Why does "Where the office boy used to be paid bread cost more? Why can't I have a \$5 or \$6 a week, now he is offered \$7 "Where the office boy used to be paid blue suit this fall? What has become of \$3. They aren't to be had, that's tween 4,000 and 5,000 of them a year, of the imported beer? It's the same old answer, monotonous in its constant Million share days down there mean hand of from 1,200 to 1,400.

lots of business, and that means lots The war.

Some one said the other day that jobs. I can't give specific examples.

the office boy was about to take his but suppose a firm used to have one

closely set type on a Sunday and not used to this work," he replied, boys at work. That is a thing I can-sometimes they drop to eight columns. "Why, we can't find half enough not be sure about, but it seems logical But the advertisements wherein a young fellows for the jobs that are to me. It seems to me that in such times the Board of Education and never saw anything like conditions as of my troubles. At other times, when

> If there is one man in New York who knows as much about the boy market as Mr. McConaughey, it is John C. Turner, superintendent of messengers for the American District

He is getting a new gray hair each day trying to scratch up boys. They are so hard to get that the company has been obliged to curtail its messenger service in order to handle the isn't telling for publication how many an' its easy work, an' I'm goin' to quit

A question of supply and demand.

Also I fix them up in a newly pressed "That's 9 o'clock. At noop the like-

here.
"'What is it?' I ask him, but I know

without asking.
"'I'm through,' he says. "'What's the matter?" "'Nothin'. I got a better job."

"How?" "Well, I took a message over there to the Rudson Terminal Buildin', and one of these railroad supply fellows

sult of the general prosperity.

"Lots of my older and bigger boys have taken jobs in the Brooklyn muliest looking one of the bunch is back | 218 a week pulling a truck around the here. of that they can live away from home and pay board and still be ahead, unless they are at the top of our service, that is, in the best paying offices, where the runs are short and the messages frequent.

"I see many evidences of it. When times are a little hard I frequently have to get after the boys for wearing Western Union telegrams, which natu-rally cannot be neglected. Mr. Turner son?" An' he tells me what he'll pay. "'Now, look here, Frank,' I begin, 'you have a fairly good run. You are making \$10 a week. What's the reason

or taking a course at the City College ily, and he and his other brothers are Courted by merchant, lawyer, doctor,

nitions plants or in Jersey or even tive affluence. They have decent shoes that they like change, being boys, and up in Bridgeport. They make maybe all around and money enough for the irresponsible. They pester me inces-

chance has the little fellow?

But in Mr. Turner's opinion, all this no figures on the subject. because he's the smart one of the fam- is not an unmixed blessing for the boy.

but the whole family, including father and sisters, have been steadily employed now for a year or maybe two years, a thing they never experienced before. They are rolling in comparative affluence. They have decent shoes all around and money another, for no reason at all except that they like change, being boys, and increased the comparative affluence. santly with demands to be transferred from this district to that, and if I "I watch the advertisements for can't oblige they quit and go to work boys, and I notice that employers who elsewhere.

"The drop in immigration may have all the clerks and operators are re- schools. But whether the increase is it plain that it is a good, round number.

"Before the day's over that little you don't get a pair of shoes? You something to do with it, indirectly. Of scene will be repeated many times, and by the end of the week I am 'way and by the end of the week I am 'way things you're wearing, and first thing a specialty of boys," he said, "and in all that time, fat years and lean, I the whole of New York. That's one week's work."

"The drop in immigration may have all the clerks and operators are resonnt to do with it, indirectly. Of cruited from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is something to do with it, indirectly. Of cruited from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the branch managers, and from the ranks of the messent in boys or girls, the department is something to do with it, indirectly. Of course, the boy just over who can't get a pair of shoes?

Good Wages for Boys Who Work and More Schooling for Some Who Under Other Conditions Would Have to Earn a Living

what not. A very large percentage of the men who hold good positions with the two great telegraph companies to-day rose from the blue clad ranks. That is a settled policy of both

corporations.

Besides, the schooling they get in the service, the wits sharpening drill of their varied experiences, stands them in good stead in almost every walk in life.

"They don't always brag about it," said Mr. Turner, 'though they're not ashamed of it, either, but if I were to tell you of the bank cashiers, the department store heads, and the men in every business under the sun on their own account, who began as messen-gers you would be astounded. Some of them wave to me as they fit by in their limousines on a Sunday after-noon. They remember."

The suggestion that perhaps the flush family pocket book had enabled many homes to send boys to school this fall who normally would have gone to work, or would have stayed at "Then he explains that his brother now, perhaps, are drawing the boys they took when vacation beis studying to be a dentist or a lawyer, we could use."

Then he explains that his brother now, perhaps, are drawing the boys true, but the Board of Education has no figures on the could use."

One thing the Board of Education does know, and that is that it can't get office boys for itself. One is wanted course for his desire for a place with a good firm, small salary to start with, have gone. The demand exceeds the supply by hundreds, and it is insatished.

The shortage began to be noted in fan and indeed the multicolored cards the supply by hundreds and it gives the shortage began to be noted in fan and indeed the multicolored cards the bars as hish as possible to keep as supply by hundreds, and it is insatished.

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The shortage began to be noted in fan and indeed the multicolored cards the bars as hish as possible to keep as surging up all the money they can be bars as hish as possible to keep as surging up all the money they can be surging up all the money they can be bars as hish as possible to keep as surging up all the money they can be surging up all the money the bars as hish as possible to keep as surging up all the money they can be surging up all the surging up all the money they can be surging up all the surgin pinces, but the boys who once were so anxious for these places that they took the examinations for them now send word that they are going 'to chool this year or they have better jobs downtown, and so on. in other words \$300 a year on the city payroll does not interest the 1916 model office

because of their standing and the advantages they offer used to have their pick of the boys have been hard pressed. I see their advertisements week after week, and I've watched their offers go up from \$5 a week in some cases to \$9. And still the advertisements are in the papers. If those people can't get boys what chance has the little fellow?

elsewhere.

"Of course, that's not good for them. I'm glad to see boys getting good money and goed chances, but among the most valuable things amy boy that the high schools, which take in most of the boys old enough to enter thoroughness. They're too independent just now to acquire those virtues."

"They might do worse than be mestically the registration figures compiled September 27 throw a dim ray of light on the situation. They show that the high schools, which take in more pupils this year than last. This in spite of the infantile paralysis scare, which caused a decrease of 5,606 in

ZIGZAGGIN' WITH WOODROW IN THE UPLIFT

By LIND C. DOYLE, JR. negan, "the orations at Shadow Lawn. Wudthrow is great stuff. Himself is the boy for jew desprits. They sound fine, but for the meanin' to thim. I can't get next nor

nigh thim. 'Tis truth I'm tellin' ye. "Whin I hear that s'clety is organizin' itself to understand itself, faith I'm uplifted, but not enlightened. If ivry big business man is a pote at heart (an' I dinnau if he is or not) I wisht Carnegie's penshun fund wud sing me a love song. Nawthin' mat-thers, barrin' the vital stuffs iv life. Who's the vital stuffs? Redfield an' Danyiels, I'll be thinkin'. An' for why

"The smell ly plum puddin' may wake great emoshuns, but I'd rathe taste corned beef an' cabbage. If Nellie smell iv the dinner. I'd have a great emoshun she'd not like, believe you

"Whin the Wilson an' Marshall Natural Gas Club iv Squankum was af-flicted wid cold feet they med up a cheap uplift excurshun to Shadow Lawn. (There's nawthin' like uplift for chilblains. 'Tis recommended to cure coughs, too. I wonder does Col. House use it for that?) So Wudthrow makes wan iv his great spaches to the Squankum Chilbiainers.
"'Fellow pathriots,' says he. 'Fel-

ow chilbiainers,' he says, pintin' wid place in the limbo of forgotten things, office boy. Now it has, we will say, his right hand to the blue arch above, 'as our spiritual 'vision gazes back,' he "If the boy is a few years older, say says, 'on the untrod Lawyers and railroad executives and 18 or 20, and can write a fair hand fuchure, he says, 'it beholds the foot-department store managers and such and maybe add a column of figures prints,' says Wudthrow, 'iv an unhid-" 'Hprree, yow-ee, whoop!' yells the

vestigation was started to ascertain start with very little more pay, say howls, throwin' up their hats.

This man Huge-es, goes on Wud-\$8 to \$10. But it may lead to any-

throw, wid his well known sob, 'goes "In all my experience I never saw through me terrible,' says he. anything like the demand for boys why does he go knockin' me acksbuns." which exists to-day. Are there still says he, 'instead of acceptin' me words chances for the boy to advance? There like a man? axes Wudthrow, triumare. The opportunities for the boy phant like. The past is behind us, an' the present is wid us,' says he, 'till never were better in all our history March foorth annyway,' says he, 'an' 'tis indillycate for to talk about thim, "Why are boys so hard to find?

"Why are boys so hard to find?
Well, I know one or two reasons and
I can conjecture another. I know that
office boy and junior clerk jobs have
multiplied many fold in the financial
fix our gaze, says he, on the indefinite
fix our gaze, says he, on the indefinite

"Hurror" yells the formatting the first our gaze. multiplied many fold in the financial district and in dozens of industries

a great number, even right in New soul, wid burnin contimpt. On'y for me sinse iv jewty, which same is stu-"They want a few just plain office penjus,' says he, gettin' red in the face, cribe it to the war brides.

boys, of course. Then the boys who 'I'd resign and lave ye go to the divie.

McConaughey is manager of are a little huskier can work as Huge-es an' all, says he 'But I canyment bureau conducted by helpers around the plants at good pay not, I cannot! Alas, me poor coun-Association in Brooklyn. His chinery, even the rud mentary knowl- he contimplates the awful prospect.

make his \$3.50 a day. If he is 20 or on the side, says he, but we must hate scratchin its nose.

"Fwhat is it the value of a production clerk are requires, says he, is high idayles, low Vance. hang on a patent simply to count the work as it comes visibility, an' open mind, an' mor'l verat his left. These cards are through the machines and check the vision between 14 and 25, all obvi
between 14 and 25, all obvi
step of cards hang on a patent simply to count the work as it comes visibility, an open mind, an mor'l version open mind, a

"Now, as to conjecture: I would why don't he tell the Dutchmen that he says. why don't age of the uninitiated sharing in the general prosperity, have clare war on Germany? he axes, doughed and as much was suggested consumer.

The same of the uninitiated sharing in the general prosperity, have clare war on Germany? he axes, doughed and as much was suggested consumer.

The same of the uninitiated sharing in the general prosperity, have clare war on Germany? he axes, doughed to keep their boys in short in action, says Vance. 'We'll show it, says Vance, 'We'll show it, says Vance, 'act Wan: Wudthrow was discovered by the same of the policy of the dillygates retires with thing? he axes, doughed the price. I wasn't there are pained expression in the pants. "Wilson goes to a typewriter and show it, says Vance, 'act Wan: Wudthrow was discovered by the same of the policy of the dillygates retires with thing? he axes.

The same of the price of the price of the price of the policy of the pants. The same of the price of the pri

By LIND C. DOYLE, JR. Treatment for Chilblains Given at Shadow Lawn Suggests a Moving Picture the Gyardin, registerin' excitement. The been readin; said Mr. Fin- Treatment for Chilblains Given at Shadow Lawn Suggests a Moving Picture the Gyardin, registerin' excitement. of the Administration in Action, Showing How Many Different Things a Single Statesman May Be in Turn.



"Danyiels an' Redfield comes in mournfully, bearin' the remains iv the Baltimore platform."

munition plants are taking boys, not says he. 'Phwat did he iver do that he mick. 'Vance,' says he. 'Can Bill Stone 'He's been in the show business all his said he wouldn't?' says Wudthrow. they are employing in the aggregate the wouldn't?' says the serene twistin' the mouth that's on him "Would he do it, think ye?' axes twistin' the mouth that's on him "Would he do it, think ye? axes worser nor it is?" he axes. Wudthrow, glancin' at a cocked hat

Vance, gloomy like.

career, such as some of the fine New York firms offer.

"As for Huge-es," goes on Wilson, done his turns bechune the Neapolitan breath. Ivry five minutes they'd carry dillygates registers benevolence, York firms offer.

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scholar in pollyticks, 'or I'll ate the says he, 'adults fifteen cints,' he says. 'an' naygurs an' kids at the half iv it,'
"'Hurroo!' yells the Chitblainers, an' Vance says wid a look iv triumph. and mercantile lines, stimulated by our present prosperity, which of course is largely due to the war. Second, the "Will ve look at the war war look in the second with the second and second with the second war. Second, the "Will ve look at the war look in the war look in the war look in the war. Second, the "Will ve look at the war look in the war "Hurroo!' yells the Chilbiainers, an 'But think iv the spiritual insight "Carranzy stamps on the American back they goes to Squankum, all iv "But think iv the spiritual insight flag. Wudthrow registers anger an' "Thin Wudthrow calls in McCor- Says Wudthrow lookin' inthrested,

> Wudthrow, glancin' at a cocked hat "'Tis truth I'm tellin' ye, says hangin over the fireplace. Vance. They'll not swally the dose "'l'sen't he rent out the riparian

widout we can howld their nose, says rights at State dinners whin he was since, gloomy like.

"'Alas, I feared as much,' says the to provide for. He's a fam'ly do it if we paid eat neuter mind, 'but I'd be in dread him, believe you me,' Vance says.

The Greasers registers indignashun thry, says he, wid a storm iv sobs as great neuter mind, but I'd be in dread him, believe you me. Vance says.

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he can pass himself for a mechanic and lif ye illict me is a side issue-Wilson you see to that, says the neuter mind, gays he wid ginywine enthusiasm. 'Sind for the Colonel,' says Wudthrow, a bit iv Dimycrat Congress water on "'Fwhat is it that's wantin'?' axes 'an' we'll fee-nance this far-reachin' plan for to uplift, says he, 'an' dignify, the Mexican flag. Saloot fired. Band "'Uplift,' says Wudthrow, wid a says he, 'our pollytickie methods,' says 'Hail, Columby,'
"The Greasers registers injured inny-

But how'd we work this master runnin for office. Divil a man to Carranzy. Uncle Sam registers a axes.

ered at his desk registerin' meditation, an' registers fury. Wilson gets be-(Sensa- hind a tree. His red corpuscles shouts breakin' glass the cat iv surprise leaps

(Cries of Brav-vo! This is the true on the wall, 'If anny wan insults the "Thin comes Uncle Sam howldin' curge by the turrible man wid the American flag offer him money on the Gumshoe Buil be wan ear an Burleson calm eye!')

spot.' Band plays 'America.' Curbe the other. Burleson registers of-"Danyiels an' Redfield comes in tain.

Redfield's pink whiskers. Danyiels's only." gaiters registers profound thought as be hands an ax to Wudthrow. "His nibs tucks up his sleeves an' spits on his hands. (Loud cheers.) He splits up the wan term plank an' trows it in the fire. (Wild applause. Cries iv 'You're all right, Woody!') He destr'ys the canal tell plank. (Cheers from the stiffs, hisses fr'm the Dimmycrats.) Thin he cops out the civil service plank an' makes it into toothpicks. The deservin' Dimmy-

ri'teous dimonstrashuns, but three vital stiffs an' Ossy Villard had to be "Thin come the free trade plank. At the first blow the editor iv the Apunin' Post thrun up his hands an' fainted. Thin Wudthrow turns and gives a peach blow vase labelled 'Arbytrashun a hell iv a welt wid the ax, an' it falls

carried out on a stretcher. Tableau. Wudthrow stands on the ruins iv the Dimmycrat party gazin' wid a rapt look at the high white star iv truth The band plays 'Hark, Hark, My The ed'tor iv the Times takes a stiff drink an' pulls himself together. Ossy sobs softly from a back seat. Red fire. Curtain.

"Act Two: A Mexican plain, Villy shootin' up Columbus. Carranzy in ambush at Carrys-all. American dead lyin' in the underbrush. Wudthrow in strained attychood iv watchful waitin'.

shakes his finger. Carranzy spits on the flag. Wudthrow puts his hands in his pockets an' registers hesitation. Carranzy shoots a dozen tv Perishin's troops. Wudthrow folds his arms. registers pride. The band plays 'Rally

"'Hurrah!' yells the vital stiffs, 'Ain't he kep us out o' war!' they

Association in Brooklyn. His chinery, even the rudimentary knowlthe contimplates the awful prospect.

The the side. They demands a saloot for

between 14 and 25, all obvicased up for the occasion, sit nothing else offers we send them on his heart an' rowlin' up his eyes to a round the walls, fidgeting a round the round the walls, fidgeting a round the walls, fidgeting a round the roun

ters incredulity. Sherlock registers caution an' tiptoes through the side door, follyed be Uncle Sam. Pause, while the pale moon bides her face, an' the cold stars sinks slowly in the western sky.

"A crash. A yell. Wid a sound iv tion among the stiffs.) He talks. (Applause.) He talks some more. (Cheers.) "Wudthrow in white robes as the good bursts wildly into the street. He He goes to a dictyphone. He dictates Sleepin' Beauty. He talks in his sleep, throws away the bag iv secrecy, reg-He goes to a dictyphone. He dictates sleepin Beauty. He takes in his sleep. throws away the bag iv secrecy, an ultymatum. (Thunders iv applause.) He takes it from the manufacture of the murmurs 'Serviss iv mankind' coal hole. The two editors comes chine an' swallys it wid a heroic air. (Sobs from the stiffs.) Letters iv fire laughin' an slappin' their thighs. isters 'all is lost,' an' dives down a coal hole. The two editors comes out

n. Act three: Scene wan. The White pained surprise. He pints to the Baltimore platform. Slow music. The House grounds. The ghost iv Dumba printed copy of the ex-tempor spache bass drum sobs gently. Then stlence. crosses, grinnin an carryin a ulty- that he niver made. Uncle Sam dissave where the breeze rustles softly in matum marked 'For domestic use burses two swift kicks, an' Gumshoe "Scene two. Outside Terrace Gyar-"Wudthrow on the Dimmycrat jackage."

din, Noo Tork. Enter Gumshoe Bill, beams on a Mexican bandit dressed in Burleson an' two frinds whose names a Washin'ton Continental uniform, be Gumshoe disremembers. Serenade, 'Der Whacked am Rhein.' Two Ger- O'Leary despatch wid wan hand an' man ed'tors peeps out iv the window his answer wid the other. A bunch iv an grins at each other. Sinitor Stone Datchmen grincin behind him Hap-registers secrecy, an gumshoes into the Gyardin. The lights goes out, stake an gaaged. Handwritin on the "After a long period by watchful wall, 'America First, organ behind the waltin' Burleson registers a very giny-

wine anxiety, and gumshoes after ner.' Curtain.

Stone. The two frinds that Gumshoe disremembers silently fades away. The high white star of truth winks solemnbut a great big brainy man cud be so ly at the Southern double cross. Amid many things. He's a fighter an' a profound silence a distant clock strikes passyfist; a wan termer an' a twoor-more termer, a suffragette an' an "Enter Sherlock Holmes Hapgood anti, an' Lord knows fwhat else,

carryin' the cat iv surprise in the bag "Faith, as the Good Book says, he's iv secrecy. Enter Uncle Sam. Sher-all things to all men, an' to women not lock grabs him be the arm an' pints to a few."



"Thin comes Uncle Sam, howldin' Gumshoe Bill be wan ear an' Burleson be the other."

He assumes his rightful place.

than right now.

mr with the dinosaur and the dodo. three, and it wants one or two more. Superficially that seemed to be true. of readly enough with the theory he is in just as great demand. He can den hand, he says. that the genus of the office boy was hire out as a junior clerk, which is a becoming extinct. Therefore an in- kind of sublimated office boy, at the Natural Gassers. 'Wonderfull' they why such a thing should be.

The investigation did not go very far thing if the boy has it in him. before it became apparent that there are just as many boys now as there ever were, perhaps a few more. And just as many or perhaps a few more Also there are probably ust as many working in offices, superstanding. But, and this is the answer, there are so many more for boys that the supply won't round. The inevitable result is that the boys are picking and choosing their jubs instead of standing in line.

elr favored choices just now are Street and the munition plants. te are many men in New York quaintance with the boy mararst hand and fairly complete. il agree that never before had from 14 years upward such And unanimously scribe it to the war brides.

rvices is unexcelled.

the same. They all want wages and better chances for a life blainers. one they enter the smaller York firms offer. answer searching but kindly a Mr M Conaughey.